



City of Salinas

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February 13, 2007

The Honorable Russell D. Scott
2007 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Monterey
240 Church Street
Salinas, CA 93901

SUBJECT: Response to 2006 Grand Jury Final Report regarding "Use of Tasers by Law Enforcement"

On February 13, 2007 the Salinas City Council approved the following responses to the findings and recommendations in the 2006 Grand Jury Final Report regarding "Use of Tasers by Law Enforcement." The responses follow the finding and recommendations found on pages 51 and 52 of the Final Report.

Findings:

1. **"The use of Taser weapons is an effective and reasonable non-lethal mechanism to facilitate the control of and to assure compliance of physically combative suspects."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

2. **"Taser weapons are generally utilized to subdue suspects who are on illicit drugs or alcohol, have a mental illness, or through a combination of these facts are either oblivious to or highly resistant to pain. Pepper spray and other non-lethal weapons may not be effective in these cases."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

3. **"In the case of a fatality allegedly caused by the employment of a Taser weapon, reported by the Police Department of Salinas, the use was justified under the circumstances described in the police report provided."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

4. **"All Monterey county law enforcement agencies that utilize the Taser have demonstrated compliance with their agencies' Taser policies and procedures."**

Response: The City Council agrees with this finding as it pertains to the City of Salinas.

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5. **"Taser utilization has generally limited physical harm to law enforcement officers in dealing with belligerent suspects."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

6. **"The use of Taser weapons by Monterey County law enforcement agencies has reduced the need for officers to use deadly force in dealing with belligerent suspects."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

7. **"The use of Taser weapons by Monterey County law enforcement agencies has reduced physical harm to belligerent suspects."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

Recommendations:

1. **"Monterey County law enforcement agencies should continue the use of Taser weapons."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

2. **"Monterey County law enforcement agencies not utilizing the Taser should evaluate its use by their agencies."**

Response: The City Council agrees.

3. **"All Taser-using agencies should evaluate the use of the 'Taser-cam.'"**

Response: This recommendation is currently under review by Salinas Police Department personnel.

Sincerely,



Dennis Donohue
Mayor of Salinas

cc: City Council ✓
City Manager ✓
City Attorney ✓
City Clerk ✓